

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An information recording medium comprises a user
area, and a spare area including a replacement area, wherein
the replacement area may be used instead of a defective area
in the user area. The user area and the spare area include
a plurality of sectors. Each of the plurality of sectors
includes a user data area for recording user data, and an
attribute data area for recording defect replacement
10 allowance attribute data. The defect replacement allowance
attribute data indicates whether recording of the user data
has been executed in a state that the execution of a defect
replacement process is allowed. In the defect replacement
process, the defective area in the user area is replaced
15 with the replacement area in the spare area.